

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

One exemplary superelastic material that may be used is a compound comprising nickel and titanium. In particular, a ~~nitinol~~ Nitinol material may be used. Nitinol is a family of intermetallic materials that contain a nearly equal mixture of nickel and titanium and exhibit the properties of shape memory and superelasticity. Nitinol may be set in a particular shape, and will return or "spring back" to that shape after deformation. To set the desired undeformed shape of the superelastic wire, the wire may be constrained in the desired shape and an appropriate heat treatment may be applied. For example, the distal end 144 of the tip assembly 140 of the catheter 100 may be placed in a jig, such as the jigs described in connection with Figures 5-10, and heated until the shape of the superelastic wire is set. A temperature of 400-500 degrees Celsius over a period of 1-5 minutes may be sufficient to set the shape.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 36, line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 68-69 illustrate exemplary configurations for the superelastic channels described above. Figure 68 illustrates a superelastic channel 6810 having a cylindrical shape with an inner surface diameter D_i and an outer surface diameter D_o . Figure 69 illustrates a superelastic channel 6910 having a rectangular shape with a length L_i between opposite inner surfaces and a length L_o between opposite outer surfaces. In one example, inner surface diameter D_i or length L_i may be approximately 0.01- 0.011 inch, and outer surface diameter D_o or length L_o may be approximately 0.014-0.015 inch. It should be appreciated that the superelastic channels described herein may assume a variety of shapes and are not limited to those shown in Figures 68-69. For example, the channels may be shaped as a spring, an oval-shaped tube, a multi-sided tube (e.g., a pentagonal or octagonal tube), or another hollow shape. Superelastic channels 6810 and 6910 may be formed of any of the exemplary superelastic materials described herein, such as ~~nitinol~~ Nitinol or another compound comprising nickel and titanium. In one example, superelastic channels 6810 and 6910 are formed of string-tempered stainless steel.